

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 5–20 have been canceled. Claims 21–25 have been added.

Claims 5, 7–9, 15–17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Iida (U.S. Pat. No. 5,500,542). Claims 6 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida in view of Spaanenberg (U.S. Pat. No. 4,656,592). Claims 10–14 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida in view of Katsube (U.S. Pat. No. 5,828,119). Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iida, in view of Katsube, and further in view of Spaanenberg. Claims 5–20 have been canceled. Claims 21–25 have been added

None of the references teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 21–25. Claims 22 and 25 recite a semiconductor device formed by combining and placing previously registered functional blocks and determining a wiring pattern in accordance with given logical circuit specifications, and claims 21 and 23–24 recite a method for forming such a semiconductor device.

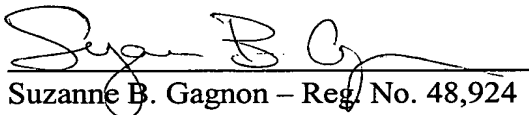
The semiconductor device comprises a first functional block including at least one of a first conduction type diode and a second conduction type diode; and a second functional block including the same logic as the first functional block, but not containing the first or second conduction type diode, wherein either the first functional block or the second functional block is selectively used depending on whether a wiring conductor conducting to the input pin and a gate electrode becomes an antenna ratio exceeding an allowed antenna ratio in the semiconductor

device. The prior art does not teach or suggest the above-mentioned device and method having all the elements and steps as recited in claims 21-25.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 31638US4.

Respectfully submitted,
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